IN A TREE BY A PRECIPICE

A COON HUNTAT LAKE KEUKA THAT END, D WITH A BIG SCARE.

Things About Steuben County that Make Coons Like It-Peculiarities of Coon Stanting There-A Narrow Eccape,

"Ordinarily," said Packy Griswold of the Lake Keuka country, up in Steuban county, "there ten't anything about a coon hunt that the occasional treeing of a wideat or a bear instead of a coon has been known to raise a fellow's hair, if it didn't leave him short of a good bit of skin. I hunted coons a good many years, and never yet got fooled by a wildcat or a bear, but I came just as near being actrad to death by a coon one night as any one could come, and yet live. I'm scared yet whenever I think

'I guess there isn't any place in the country where the coon better loves to make his home than in the region about Lake Keuka. The on likes fish, green corn, fruits, and nuts. He would have to go a good ways to find better ng ground than the waters in that part of old Steuben. There is more milk to the acre In the corn they raise around there than there is anywhere else. When it comes to fruit it would be a greedy coon, indeed, that wouldn't be satisfied with a sixty-mile circuit of vinewith a sixty-mile gircuit of vineyards of the choicest grapes to select from, to say nothing of the acres and acres and acres of peach orchards, and pear orchards, and plum ards, and raspberry, blackberry, strawberry patches that he can, or does, have the run of in the Lake Keuka garden spot.

'As near as local statisticians have been able to ascertain, and their figures are accepted as authority by grape growers, although the latter say that the figures are low, if anything, ons of the Lake Keuka district get away with 800 tons of grapes during a season, counting sixty days as a season. This is at the rate of five tons of grapes a night, for coons feed old Steuben have ciphered it out that five nds at a meal is the average quantity of grapes with which one coon will be satisfied. as figures won't lie, a very simple calculation will show that therefore 2,000 coops are in the habit of revelling nightly in the Lake Keuka vineyards. There are sixty miles of vineyards, and it seems a pity that the statistical experts couldn't have made their figures so that they could allot an even number stubborn, and so we are obliged to know that according to them there are thirty-three coons and a third of a coon going for our grapes on every mile of vineyard, sixty nights of the year. So, you see, we are well to do in coons. "We dote on hunting coons in our favored balliwick, but it is hard work. It can't be half so hard, though, as it must be to mend a fence or fix a leaky roof, for I know lots of rolks up our way who hunt coons every night, but who won't risk their strength mending fences or fixing roofs, not even for a dollar and a quarter a day. The reason coon hunting is such hard work in the Keuka district is that the hills are high and steep all around, stubborn, and so we are obliged to know that fences or fixing roofs, not even for a dollar and a quarter a day. The reason coon hunting is such hard work in the Keuka district is that the hills are high and steep all around, and when a coon finds out that some one with a dog is after him he tears right up the face of the hills to the very top, and we have to tug and climb and buff and blow. I tell you, to follow him. Then those hills are cut in two svery little distance clear from the top to the bettom by regular cañons, some of 'em more than 200 feet deep. The smart coons hide in the fastnesses of those dark ravines, and then what are you going to do? Sit down and rest, swear a little, may be, and then go home—unitses you want to rout up another coon and take the chances on treating him where you can get at him.

take the chances on treating him where you can get at him.

"The night I cams pretty near being scared to death by a coon I was hunting with a friend, of mine from the town of Wayne. We had a good dog, and we weren't long in starting a coon. He took a bee line up the highest and steepest hill there was within five miles, but our dog was up to the tricks of Lake Kcuke scona, and followed him so close that the ring-zailed thief of the vineyards had to tree. He had managed to get to the viry highest point on the hill, more than 300 feet above the lake. The night was dark, but when we get to the tree the dog had run the coon in I soon discovered him, all in a bunch, on a good-sized limb ten feet from the ground.

"The dog had showed so many good points in overhauling the game and treeing it that I thought it wouldn't be more than right and fair that he should be encouraged and rewarded by a tussle with the coon off the limb down to the dog.

"The tree was a good-sized chesturt with

"The tree was a good-sized chestnut, with spreading limbs. I reached the branch where the coon was perching, and he ran out toward the end of the limb and made his stand. I crept along the limb until I came within kicking distance of the coon. The limb was too big for me to shake him off. There was another limb just above me. I reached up and grasped it with one hand, and aimed a tremendous kick at the coon. I thit him, and knocked him off the limb. The force of the kick broke my hold on the limb above, and I tumbled off with the coon. I caught myself with one arm on the lower limb and quickly grabbed the limb with my other hand and saved myself. The limb was only ten feet above the ground, and I had only a couple of feet to drep as I hung, but I aung on and listened to hear the coon drop, and the dog pitch on him. I didn't hear him strike, but after about a quarter of a minute I heard a sound as if something were crashing through a tree a good ways down the hill. Pretty soon a similar sound came up from somewhere still further away—then, after an interval, another turther down than the second, and at last a listant, dull thump, as of some object striking

distant, dull thump, as of some object striking the ground.

"I feit myself turning cold. I remember working my way along the limb back to the trunk of the tree, and sliding down to the ground. Then I quit remembering anything. When I got back to consciousness my friend had me stretched out on the ground, and was feeding me whiskey. By and by I remembered what had occurred.

"Sam,' said I. 'light a match and see if my haie is turned white!"

"Sam lit a match and held it to my head, but my hair hadn't turned. I have never been able to understand why. It had a right to be turned as white as a grave stone. That chest-nut tree stood a few feet from the edge of one of the deepest ravines along the lake. We knew the ravine was there all right, but the

to understand why. It had a right to be turned as white as a grave stone. That chestnut tree stood a few feet from the edge of one of the deepest ravines along the lake. We knew the ravine was there all right, but it never occurred to me that the limbs of that tree grew 'way out over it. They did, though and when I kicked that coon and myself off the limb I wasn't hanging almost within reach of the ground, as I supposed but was suspended in the air, with nothing under me but 300 feet of vacancy! If I hadn't caught myself as I fell, or if I had let myself drop, as I might have done, without listening for the coon. I would have chased that coon to the bottom of the canon, and—well, there are pleasanter things to think of than what the rest of it would have been. I've never hunted coons much since that night. I don't say that that is the reason why there are more coons up in the Lake Keuka country than there used to be. But I have my opinion about it."

Some of the Varieties of Pelts Seenred by Trappers in Wisconsin.

Trappers in Wisconsin.

Prom Forest and Stream.

American trappers said that the gray wolves of upper Wisconsin were the largest in the United States. They drove the deer a good deel. A pack of seven wolves had twice crossed their lines that winter, and they had polson out for them. Wolves swept across a great deal of country—thirty, forty, fifty miles or more—and did not remain local. The lynx also travelled a great deal. A lynx unsuity came around again in about seven days, and the wolves once in two or three weeks, though not so regularly as the lynx. The otter also travelled a great deal, but was irregular. It would sometimes leave the water courses, and travel miles across dry divides to entirely new country. The best of ince to trap marten was along the high ridges between waterways, and that was best also for fisher. They often caught fisher, but never a wolverine.

American trappers rated the fox the hardest animal to trap, the wolf next, and the ofter third. To catch a fox they often made a bed of chaff and got him to lying init or fooling around is, the trap being set under the chaff. Or a trap was set at a place where several fores seemed to stop for a certain purpose. Or a fox could be caught sometimes by putting a bait a little way out in the water, and then putting a pad moss between the bait and the shore, with the probate of the moss. The fox nutilities to wet his feet, would step on the moss.

For wolves the usual way was to put out poison (strychnine). Often they would not touch the poisoned meat. For otter it was necessary to use great care, not leaving any chipse or litter around. Our trappers usually caught them either on a side or at a place where they came out of the water, not where they came out of the water, not where they want in, as the otter sides with his feat doubled under and would be apt to spring the trap with his body. It was a good way to drop a silek of limb on the side of the silde, cutting it down and letting it fail naturally, so that the otter could not escape the trap s From Forest and Stream,

WILD DUCKS ON THE SOUND.

Floaty of Birds but Difficulty Experience in Getting Near Thom.

The recent heavy wind storm and cold rain proved a blessing to the wild-fowl shooter whose business will not permit him to go far from home. The exceedingly mild weather had the effect of keeping the fowl very wild and very wary. Except at close dusk or nightfall it was impossible to find them near land. The storm caught the birds well fed, in anything but good muscular condition for a scrap with the elenents, and buffeted them here and there, so that for days after they were tired, stiff, cramped, and listiess, and glad to stay in sunny quarters and huddle up close to the reed beds for warmth and rest. Those fowlers who were able to take advantage of this fact reaped fine bags. From Throgg's Neck eastward to New Haven is and these for days have been alive with ducks brant. Old duck men say that when a storm like this last one strikes in from the northward all the birds to the north of the Sound and or the open ocean strike in for the sheltering north shore of the Sound, and that many of them, battling up past Orient Point, see land, and, alightly relaxing their efforts, are whirled right across the water into the south shore of the Sound, and then, finding themselves still exposed, rest a while before battling across to the north shore for shelter. One old man said that the day following the storm fowl were passing over like flocks of swamp blackbirds, dropping here

and there all up the coast as far as he could see, Close to Shippan Point, at Stamford, there is quiet pool of water, ringed in with trees and overed breast high with reeds and rushes; and here last Saturday a local shot lay in the reeds but his own dead ducks, and from 7 to 10 A. M. the old Lester Wallack estate, now known as Grey Cliff. Right along the shore from here

the old Lester Wallack estate, now known as Grey Cliff. Right along the shore from here north there is good ground, and all that is wanted is patience and practical knowledge. As to how little a thing will secure the attention of the birds is clied the trick of an old colored man who went out Thankegiving morning with a turker, wired it on a board, floated it in the reeds, and called down eight ducks, eventually eating his decay for dinner, and the ducks later. At Pelnam Hay, and also at Indian Harbor, Greenwich, both within an hour of New York, are good spots. A flat bottomed bateau well masked, with a few dozen stales, or even with only a good caller, can work havec with the ducks after a blow at both spots. At Indian Harbor especially the bluff runs up quite high, and so affords full shelter for the tired, hungry fowl. Sheak boxes are plenty at these places, and they are all very well as far as they go, but unless one is accustomed to them they are liable to tilt over, and a wet skin is the result. The best mask, when all is said and done, is made with a few boughs wattled in and out with sait grass. Sculling the boat along by means of a single oar projecting from a well-greased rowlock at the stem, the creeks can be silently explored, and, when tired of that, the stales can be placed and the boat anchored in the open. The great trouble with these nearby places is that so many green hands go down, and they will persist in firing a twelve-bore with a range of fifty yards at a duck or brant which is at least one hundred yards away, and so stirring the fowl up for nothing, and, to a great extent, spoiling the fun for older and more experienced hands.

Many gunners are making the mistake of not taking heavy guns with them. Guns which will be all very weil after two or three weeks of frost in the Sound waters are no cartrily use just now; they do not kill far chough. Taking an average

in the Sound waters are no earthly use just now; they do not kill far enough. Taking an average of 200 shots made this year, it is the opinion of the writer that the range average was very near seventy yards, and this means a heavy gun, well choked to shoot a good nattern. The writer prefers No. 4 shot, although some uso No. 6 and drive it with a heavy cherge. Although the decoys, attract attention, as usual, up to date in these waters the fowl have been very shy, and even when signting in and alighting, they have not come right in among the decoys, as they will later, but have settled away off and preend themselves and fooled around, often rising at a long range and going away again without approaching any nearer. Then nothing out a cartridge with a little beef fat and oil run in among the shot is any use, and even then the fellow behind the stock must know how to shoot with it.

For heavy shoulder guns there is a new recoil pad. The old one was simply a thick strip of very fine rubber, and it did save the shoulder considerably if held close. The new idea is a pneumatic pad, which breaks the force of the concussion wonderfully, and has only one drawback, that it is rather baggy. When the gun is pulled up quickly, if the gunner slides it up along his coat, as he is very liable to do, it will flatten and be liable to spoil his aim. A very little practice with it, however, will give the motion of throwing the gun off from the chest when raising it, and so bringing it just as quickly home in a horizontal direction to the shoulder. Reports from the south shore of the Sound up to date are not encouraging, and there must be a change of the wind or some lee in the water for a few days before there is likely to be any

THE RETIRED BURGLAR. A Singular and Most Unfortunate Mishap

with an Unexpected Ending. . "In a house that I was looking over in a town up the State one night," said the retired burgwedding presents, all just as they were ar ranged for display. When I turned my lamp into the room I wished I had brought a horse and wagon; there was a good deal of it that wouldn't have been of any earthly use to me but it seemed a pity to leave any of it behind. But if I couldn't carry it all off I could have the fun of picking, and I started to look the things over. They were arranged on tables and chairs and on the floor around on three sides of the room; on the side opposite to the side that I had come in at, and on the sides to the right and left; running around those three sides in a sort of irregular order. On the side where was there were a few chairs. I thought I'd start in on the left and work around to th right, and I started from the door and had

was there were a few chairs. I thought I'd start in on the left and work around to the right, and I started from the door and had gone about three steps when I went down through the floor, as itseemed to me, but what I had really done was to step down through an open register. I suppose somebody must have dropped something down through it and have dropped something down through it and have taken it out to get it and forgot to put it back.

"There was a wire soreen under the register over the pipe opening, to keep things from dropping down the pipe, but it was very fine light wire, and it didn't stop me at all; I just slid down into the pipe, pushing that along under my feet. When I dropped into the pipe I had been facing to the left; in some way as I went down I got skewed around so that when I got down as far as I did go! was facing to the front; that is, toward the centre of the room. The bipe didn't go straight down, but with a curve. I had thrown up my hands as I went down, and I suppose I might have gone plumb to the furnace if I hadn't clutched at the edge of the register opening and hung on. A minute before I was going to take my pick offa roomful; now where was I?

"I had started across the room carrying my tool bag in one hand and my lamp in the other. The shock when I went down had shaken the bag out of my hand, but I had held on to my lame, though it was lyling on its side now with my fingers clutching through the strking of the lamp on the floor and the scraping of the wire gauze down through the strking of the lamp on the floor and the scraping down to had have made all together a good dean gome body move head all together a good dean somebod made and together a good the streng down again, and held on by one had and together a good dean good and the strking of the floor; by a great effort I could raise myself own again, and held on by one had and held up to have a floor in the pipe; I couldn't get any higher.

"I ket myself down again, and after a while I pulled myself you made and the level of the

NIGGER BEN'S GOLD MINE

FARLED BONANZA SOUGHT FOR

Tradition Says It Is of Great Value, and that Its Egistence Is Known to the Yuma Indians-Lives Lost in the Search for It. A new story of a lost gold mine is told by the Artson: Republican of Phoenix, with the as-surance that it is true, and that it has never before appeared in print. Lost mines are nu-merous, even plentiful, in the Southwestern States-at least in the belief of very many miners. Every once in a while an expedition s formed to search for some alleged mine of fabulous wealth, the existence of which has been a cherished tradition for a period dating back anywhere from twenty-five years to the that any such expedition was ever successful,

although the record of failures is long, Several of the mines of the greatest alleged richness are located somewhere in the great desert region of Arizona and southern California, and not a few miners have lost their lives in that waterless waste in a vain search for will-o'-the-wisps. One of the most famous of these mythical mines is the Lost Dutchman, supposed to exist somewhere in the Superstition Mountains of Arizons, and many old miners have set out again and again to find it. but always to return unsuccessful. Some of the most pitiful stories of failure and death in the annals of prospecting in the Southwest re-

late to searches for lost mines.

These lost mines are sometimes the fabled source of the wealth of the Indians and the old Mexicans, but generally are said to be the returned to the border towns with a store of big nuggets, but no certain knowledge of the locality where he found them. Perhaps most of them happen to be located in the terrible desert region, for the reason that the discoverer of the alleged mine is often a prospector picked up on the desert when almost at his last gasp by a chance pack train. He may have been prospecting in the desert, have some gold, lost his way, and become half inries have naturally been tinged with delirium. But they have formed the basis of many traditions of lost mines of fabulous wealth, and these traditions to-day are luring miners to disaster and often to death.

The last story is of a mine called the Nigger Ben. The story is well known to old-time Arizonians, but efforts to find the mine in years past have always proved so disastrous that it

past have always proved so disastrous that it has been little talkell of lately. The secret of the mine is said to be known only by a few head men of the Yuma Indians, and the tribe guards every approach to the mine, and in some way or other diverts prospectors from it.

Twenty-two years ago, the story runs, Henry E. Peenies and a party of four men were placer mining on Rich Will, in the Bradshaw Mountains, in Arizons. One of the party was a negronamed Ben, brought from Alabama by Peenies. One day a Yuma Indian appeared at the camp and remained in its vicinity for a month or more. A friendship surang up between Hen and the Indian, and for some favor or other the Indian one day told Ben he would give him a big reward, and offered to show him there there was plenty of gold. The whole party wanted to so, but the indian refused to take any one except the negro Ben, and one day the pair started away.

Day after day pussed and Ben did not return, and after three weeks of waiting the narty broke camp and started on his trail. They tracked the Indian and negro up the Arroyo de les Alames to its junction with the Ric Santa Maria. At this point the party saw straight abend, and seemingly but two or three miles distant, a cone-shaped mountain, surmounted by a sharp peak. The party stored to ward

Maria. At this point the party saw straight ahend, and seemingly but two or three miles alisant, a cone-shaped mountain, surmounted by a sharp peak. The party started toward the mountain, and while making their way up an arroyo streen with hig boulders, they came upon the skeleton of a mae. A slight examination showed that it was Ben's. Coyotes and other apimals had cleaned the skeleton, and the clothing was scattered over the boulders.

One of the party picked up the cont and found the pockets bulging with some very heavy substance. It proved to be gold. The other garments were searched, and nuggets of gold, ranging in size from a peat to a pigeon's excand amounting in value to about \$5,000, were found. The party conjectured that the Indian had conducted hen to the mine, and then had repreted doing so, and through fear that his tribe would learn of his treachery in divulging the location of the gold, had accompanied the Legro part of the way back and then killed him. The party remained in the vicinity for several weeks searching for the mine from which the gold found on Ben had been taken. But their search was fruitless. Peeples built a hut on the Big Sandy, near Signal, Ariz. In order to be near the supposed mine, and he spent the remainder of his life, more than a dozon years hunting for it, but in vain.

A few years after Nigger Ben was killed a Mexican who was prospecting in the supposed locality of the mine met an Indian of the Yuma tribe. The Indian tooka great fancy to the Mexican did not want locality of the mine met an Indian of the Yuma tribe. The Indian took a great fancy to the Mexican's saddle. The Mexican did not want to part with it, and finally, to get rid of the Indian, said he would sell it for a double handful of gold. The Indian grunted assent, and asked the Mexican to remain where he was until next day. The next afternoon the Indian reappeared and handed to the Mexican a nugget of gold as large as a hen's egg. The trade for the saddle was, of course, made at trade for the sa'die was, of course, made at once, and the Mexican tried hard to learn from the Indian where the gold came from. But the Indian shook his bend and rode away.

Since then the search for Nigger Ben's mine has been taken up by many a lone prospector and by a number of well-equipped parties, but unsuccessfully. Some of the miners who have started to seek it have never returned, and their skeletons have been found by later treasure hunters, with indications that they had been murdered, supposedly by the Indians, who feared they were getting on the track of the lost mine. But the tradition of Nigger Ben's mine is still cherisied among miners in the Southwest, and the hope is still strong that it will yet be found.

PASTOR SCHNEIDER'S MARRIAGES

He Performed 780 Ceremonies in 1895 and Probably Broke the World's Record. Pastor Schneider, who marries all the east side girls and their young men, has just fin-ished figuring up the number of ceremonies he performed in 1895, and has found the total to be 730. This is a record of records, for it beats anything that Pastor Schneider ever di before in the marrying line, and yet for the past five years he has held the marrying record in this city, and it is doubtful if any other min

ister has eclipsed him during that period. Pastor Schneider is a short, stout, good genial smile that has sent courage into the hearts of many a faltering couple whose nerve failed them on the very edge of matrimony. He lives in the big four-story brick house at 100 Second avenue, right in the heart of the German colony, and in one window there is a big glass sign which reads, "Pastor Schnel-At all hours of the day and night the gether. He will tumble out of bed in response gether. He will tumble out of bed in response to a ring at the bell at 2 o'clock in the morning as willingly as he would walk into his front room and confront a blushing couple at the same hour in the afternoon. He never has a word of reproach for anybody who comes to him, and is as full of advice as a London polleeman, and as careful of whom he marries as a Quaker. For if Pastor Schneider married all who came to him he would indeed have his hands full. During the past year he had to turn away nearly 300 couples whom his conscience would not allow him to unite in marriage, and there was excellent reason for his action in each case. Pastor Schneider does not mean to have a hand in any fatal marriages. When two youngsters come to him, a most infrequent occurrence, he sizes them up and demands to know what they want. When they tell him he puts on his most fatherly smile, makes them sit down on a lounge side by side, and then draws a chair up in front of them and seats himself in it. He has a stock lecture for such occasions, which runs somewhat you are doing, and I cannot marry you. Go back home and wait a few years, and then grant as follows:

"Children, you are both too young to know what you are doing, and I cannot marry you. Go back home and wait a few years, and then again and Pastor Schneider will be only too gial to make one of two suon faithful hearts. It would be a great mistake for you to marry now, and you must not think of doing it. This is good advice, my young friends, and show your appreciation by heeding it."

Once in a while the youngsters grow defiant, and tell the pastor that if he won't marry them they'll go to somebody clse who will, but nine times out of ten they look very much ashanned of themselves when the pastor finishes talking, and meekly withdraw after promising to think the matter over.

Pastor Schneider's income from his marriage erromonies is a very considerable one. The foce average about \$51, and during 1806 he accumulated a tidy sum in this way. A Sun reporter called on the pasto to a ring at the bell at 2 o'clock in the morning as willingly as he would walk into his from

MAN-TRAILING DOGS.

Results of Using Bloodhounds to Catch Criminals in the Far West.

From the San Francisco Examiner.
The use of bloodhounds as an adjunct of the Police Department is becoming more and more common in various sections of the Union. This Daring the days of slavery dogs were used

throughout the South to run down fugitive slaves, but for many years after the war man hunting with bounds was almost unheard of Now and again it was tried, but lack of training a the dogs and perhaps want of patience in their owners brought about so many failures that the ractice was almost forgotten. Ten years ago, when two desperate men held up a train on the Atlantic and Pacific, in the Southwest, and recured many thousands of dollars in booty, ranchman in Arizona offered to trace the highwaymen if a sufficient force for their capture vas furnished him and a reward for his trouble offered. These preliminaries being settled, he appeared on the scene twenty-lour hours after the crime had been committed with a couple of not very dangerous-looking dogs and a rifle. He was ragged in costume and apparently ragged mentally, but, as the result proved, knew what he was about. "Keep your eye on them dogs and your hands on your weeponsthere's going to be more or less tun," was all he had to say to his associates in starting. Three days later, after a weary chase of many miles over one of the roughest trails in the world, the dogs came up with and cornered the highwaymen. The latter killed both of the dogs, but he fore they could escape the pursuing posse was upon them and they surrendered. They afterward confessed their guilt, and told where the booty was hidden. Nearly \$50,000 was recovered. The amount of moner involved and the satisfactory work of the bloodhounds revived the old practice of trailing men with dogs, and there are now hundreds of the useful animals in the possession of the peace officers of the West. They are carefully bred and trained for the police duties.

there are now hundreds of the useful animals in the bossession of the peace officers of the West. They are carefully bred and trained for the police duties.

In California the Sheriffs of a dozen counties have these four-legged deputies and not infraouently they prove more faithful and successful than their two-legged associates. The best hounds in California have been taken there from other States where their breeding is made a business. Some of the animals have long pedigrees. The Examiner told recently of a valuable addition to the Sheriff's force at Nevada City. It is a five-month-sold our christened "Jim Budd," after the Governor of California. Young Jim Budd was born amid the green mountains of old Vermont, at the kennels of J. L. Winchell, at Fair Haven. His sire's official mame on the record book of the English bloodheum! Cinb of America is "Champlon Vettor, 19.335," and his maternal ancestor's designation on the same archives in Champlon Vettor, 19.335," and his maternal ancestor's designation on the same archives in his lamily tree, a Premier, and a Nestor, showing a union of nobility and brains not far back on the record, in color Jim is black and tan, and he has a month that alone is worth an arsenal of rides at any jail. "A natural-born man trailer" is the cheering character given Jim by the Sheriff.

Freano has six bloodhounds, and the genial burglar who has been having a good time for months past is seriously considering a change. One of the Fresno dogs is by the famous "Leader," who has captured more train robbers than any dog living. In oscensance Leader took the trail of a robber four days after he had left the house in which hestayel all night. The dog foilowed the trail six days and tree with sman. Sheriff Jack Johns of Stockton has the reputation of being one of the green lisman.

Sheriff Jack Johns of Stockton has the reputation of being one of the green with the part of the gow in the result of the result of the point of the gow in the country service for shortly after their arrival the d

most part these counties and others find the dogs so useful that the animals bring very large prices now.

There is considerable literature on blood-hounds. One of the best short treatises is by Edwin Brouch of Scarborough, England. He tells how pups should be sed on coatmeal porriage, stewed sheep's heads, and ship's biscuits, and gives minute directions as to training the youngsters "to hunt the clean boot." He discourages the practice of rubbing blood on the boot of the man who is being experimentally chased for training purposes, and favors the "clean boot" every time.

Mr. Brough is quite an enthusiast in the bloodhound man-chasing business, and to him it has as much fascination as tennis or football to the sporting man of quieter tastes. He says, among other things:

"Any one who is fond of seeing hounds work, but who has only a limited amount of country to hunt over, will find an immense amount of pleasure in hunting a man with one or two countes of bloodhounds. In such circumstances the agreat convenience to be able to select the exact course, which could not be done if hunting some animal, and a variety of different routes can be contrived over limited ground. I know nothing more delightful than to see bloodhounds working out a scent carefully under varying circumstances, and to hear their sonorous deep, bell-like note.

THROUGH SIBERIA ON A BICYCLE. R. L. Jefferson of London Planning a 3,500. mile Ride in the Spring.

Mr. R. L. Jefferson, now residing in London, arranging for a 3,500-mile tour on a bicycle. He has already made a trip to Constantinople and Moscow on wheels. The feat he now contemplates will completely overshadow all prelous expeditions. The Siberian wilds have been crossed by horsemen and travellers, who have been content to stow themselves away beneath the furs of a sledge. But no man has yet attempted to pierce the solitudes of Siberia alone and mounted upon the iron steed of

He intends to start early in May as the Siberian aummer extends from May to July. He will take a steamer to St. Petersburg, and procred to Moscow by train, as no useful purpose would be served by his riding on a blevele from London, for he has already covered the ground. When he was last in Moscow he discussed the lifficulties of the journey with several of his Russian friends. The first difficulty will be the question of the machine. He is having three bleyeles specially built for him. Each will be of the pneumatic shod pattern. They will not

picycles specially built for him. Each will be of the pneumate shod pattern. They will not be too light, for a puncture or a break-down would be most undestrable. Should either occur he will be able to repair the machine himself. To provide against the event of a bad smash-up, he will send two of his machines to the town of Tomsk, the capital of the province of that name, and situated on the great trading highway of Siberia, from whence they can be sent by train or sledge.

When he starts from Moscow he will try to follow the great Siberian highway and the route mapped out by Jules Verne and followed by his hero. Michael Strogoff. Following this route he will pass through the following towns: Kazan, Perm. Tinmen. Omsk. Kolivan, Tomsk. Kansk, and Irkutsk. The last is the residence of the Governor-General of castern Siberia, is a town about twelve hundred feet above the level of the sea, and enjoys a very healthy climate, though in wither the cold is so severe as to freeze the mercury. Here Mr. Jefferson's bicycle ride will end. The greatest damage of the journey will be the wolves; but Mr. Jefferson thinks that a good loud bicycle bell will frighten them away, even as the sleigh bells do. There is, of course, some fear of the various predatory bands whom he may meet upon the Stepies. Of these the Kurds and the Cossacke will be the worst, and as he gets as far north as the province of Tomsk hy will meet with the Tartars on the western slopes of the Ural Mountains. But he has selected the great Siberian high road, he will, if necessary, leave the beaten traces and make a bee line for his destination by the compass. When asked about the rivers, he said that he anticipated no trouble in this respect, as they are all bridged. Nor will he have any difficulty regarding food, for, as in British India, there are in Russian Siberia Government posts, where a traveller can obtain both food and protection for the night.

The distance from Moscow to Irkutsk is, roughly speaking, 3,500 miles, and he will allow himself three mo

FOR UNCLE SAM.

THE FRENCH PEOPLE WITH US. The Newspapers That Favor England Do

From La Puirte.
M. Henry Vignaud, first Secretary of the Legation of the United States in Paris, questioned by one of our confrères of the Oil Blas, made the following deciaration: "We Americans who love France are pained

to see the error into which the French press has fallen. A great many organs go off half cocked and draw from the message of President Cleveland the most fantastic conclusions.

"We are astonished to find that the French press is so favorable to English interests. France, nevertheless, has never found the United States against her. We Americans have proved sufficiently that we cherish the recollections of the war of independence. But one would imagine that there was a determination to deceive public opinion in Franco in regard to American policy. Otherwise, why do they seek to compare the conflict which France has with Brazil with that which has brought out the English altimatum?" We hasten to reassure the distinguished Sec

retary of the United States, and all his compatriots who are astonished at the extraordinary articles of certain organs of the French press ous notions in regard to France. Let them seck. expression of French feeling. And if they wish exactly to know what our nation wishes, what she feels, and what she Lopes in regard to this Anglo-American difficulty, let them be good enough to wait for a few days, after which they will be astonished at the explosion of sympathy which will burst forth in their favor.

For the journalists who have dipped their

ens in the ink bottle presented to them by Lord Dufferin contempt is sufficient. France and America can apply to them the words of Dante: Non ragioniam di lor, ma quarda e passa.' Let us not stop to speak of them; look and pass on. They represent neither the public opinion nor the press; they merely speak for themselves, and that is less than nothing. But let us speak for France. The proud innguings of Presi-dent Cleveland has created a profound impression here. If French patriots for a little time remain silent it is because they wish to be certain that this message will be sustained by energetic acts and by virile resolutions. All the measures that the United States thay take to sustain Venezuela, which represents right and weakness, against England, which represents brutality and naurpation, will receive the enthus aste appropriation of the French people.

The analogy that is sought to be established between the claims that we have, on account of the acts of brigandage which our countrymen have been the victims of on the Brazilian frontier, and the intimidation which England is using toward Venezuela to despeti her and oppress her, is brushed aside by all sensible men. We call for the just punishment of infamous bandits beyond the pale of civilization. England, on the constrary, attempts to appropriate unjustly a portion of the American territory. If the Monree doctrine is applicable to her it cannot be invoked against France. The United States have manifested up to the present time no desire to throw anything in the way of our legitimate claims.

The Monree doctrine, which England holds getic acts and by virile resolutions. All the

no desire to throw anything in the way of our legitimate claims.

The Monroe doctrine, which England holds up as a scarrerow before the eyes of Europe, in reality threatens only her own ever-growing avarice, her outrageous ambition, and her intelerable mania for meddiling in the affairs of all initions. At the present time that doctrine is only the just and reasonable animation of the American law against that oddots law of the American law against that oddots law of the most arrogant and the most insatiable of nations. It presents a radiutary dam to the repetition of acts of British tyrangy.

Sons of the French revolution, we are obliged to admit that America holds traditions and principles by virtue of which we ourselves changed the face of the world. See covers with her snield the liberties that are threatened, and she ciples by virtue of which we ourselves changed the face of the world. She covers with her sailed the liberties that are threatened, and she says to Great Britain, accustomed to frighten little States by her ultimatums: "I take under my protection those whom you would oppress, You must not attempt to touch the independence of that nation."

We consider that this attitude is worthy of the grandest recollections and of the most spiendid examples in our own history.

If this bold attitude is bound to result, as we think it will, in the backdown of England and the numiliation of her pride, we will salute it in admiration. If it is to be consecrated by arms, France will be thrilled from the shores of the Straits to those of the Mediterranean, Every cannon shot which will be fired from the American side will find echoes almost fraternal in the hearts of our countrymen. And France, relivenated by a century, may be able to do

in the hearts of our countrymen. And France, rejuvenated by a century, may be able to do something mere than offer good wishes to the cause of independence.

WHAT AILS THE FISHES? Indications of an Obscure Disease that Is Killing Them in Lake Erie. From the Buffalo Courier.

From the Bugalo Courter.

There are two important dangers that would be likely to ensue if the death rate in fish continues as it has been doing for some time past. The first of these dangers, although the Board of Health does not consider it great, is the effect that the dead fish would have on the city's water supply. The other, and important, question of danger that arises is the depopulating the lakes of fish. Ever since a week before Thanksgiving Day dwellers along the lake shore have noticed numerous fish being washed up on the shore. Little attention was paid to the matter at first, but during the past week the number of fish washed up has been so great that the attention of the Health Department was called to the matter.

the attention of the Health Department was called to the matter.

Dr. Thomas B. Carpenter of the department was ordered to hevestigate the matter by Dr. Wende. Last Tuesday Dr. Carpenter went up the lake shore as far as Stony Point and all as the season of the stony Point and all as the season of the season of the matter and and the mounting of thousands in the aggressed sha mounting to the season of the season of the format of the found young pike that had evidently been thrown up some days ago. At present, as far as could be seen, none were being washed on shore. Further up the lake large yellow pike were found, but the majority of fish were young pike whose ages were probably one or two years. Owing to the fact that so few sish are now being washed on the fact that so few sish are now being washed on the fact that so few sish are now being washed on the fact that so few sish are now being washed on the fact that so few sish are now being washed on the fact that so few sish are now being washed on the fact that so few shall be such perimens was received at the Health Department. One of the fish was a magnificent black base that must have weighed at least three pounds. Near the tail of this fish a red spot was discernible which the Doctor did not consider important, because he felt certain that it was a bruise. Another of the fish was a large yellow pike that also weighed in the safety of has been on the fact also weighed in the safety of the contents of the basket well be remainder of the contents of the basket well be remainder of the contents of the basket well be remainder of the contents of the basket well be remainder of the contents of the basket well be supported at the same and the pike of the same and the same and the pike of the same and the pike of the same and the pike of the same and the same and the pike of the same and the sa does not expect to be troubled by Russian offi-cials in Siberia to the same extent as he was during his blevele ride from Constantinople to Moscow. His journey will be purely one of pleasure, but at the same time he hopes to add considerable to the geographical knowledge of the country through which he will pass.

New Facts About Their Domentic Habits

Leipzig cuckoos have been subjected to s searching investigation by Dr. E. Reh, an ornithologist, and he has discovered a number of new and curious facts about their domestic habits, which are told in a recent number of Nature. Within a mile of Leipzig, in 1893, seventy nests containing cuckous' eggs were found, of which fifty-eight belonged to the red backed shrike. In 1894 Dr. Reh discovered that five of the last year's female cuckeos had not returned, while there were eight newcomers. He was able to identify individuals by his discovery that the oggs of every female have a color peculiar to it and constant. Cuckous return every year to the same place and place their eggs only in the nests of that particular species of birds which they or their ancestors appened to select for that purpose. Every egg can therefore be identified, and the number lake by any female determined pretty accurately. The young do not return to their birthplace to breed, or if they do are driven away and prevented from laying eggs by their parents. The

remain nearly the same in each locality, and that the eggs of the daughter, while similar to those of the mother, would have slight differ-ences, whereas, all eggs presumably new to the district are totally distinct from the types of type said by the local breds.

Cuckoos are more profile than is commonly supposed. They my an egg every other day from the middle of May to the middle of July.

Cursoos are more prainte than a common, supposed. They my an egg every other day from the mildie of May to the middle of July, and at times my one every day for short perieds. Sometimes two eggs are found in a single nest; these can be traced to particular birds that are unusually sociable. It is well known that eucknost eggs found in the nests of some species of hosts differ walely from one another, while those found in the nests of other varieties show great similarity. Dr. Pah points out that the same variations occur in the eggs of the hosts. The eggs of the reci-backed shrike show agreat variety in coloration, as do the cuckoos found in their nests, while wren's eggs mave great uniformity of color, which is also the case with these enckno intruders. It is suggested that this variability is due to the nature of the food on which the young birds are reared, which is mixed in the case of the shrike but fairly uniform in that of the wren. The assumption is made that cuckoos intuitively select for their eggs the nests of the species by which they were reared, and that each species of host thus rears a particular kind of cuckoo.

Dr. Reh also believes that cuckoos first deposit their eggs on the ground, and then convey them to the nest selected. In one nest a cuckoo's erg was found smeared with red earth like that found in the vicinity. In another case a made cuckoo was seen nossily leaving a shrike's nest, pursued by the infuriated occupant. On the day before the nest had been examined and no egg had been seen in it, and after the chase a cuckoo's egg was found by its side. The male cuckoo had probably grawn away the shrike on deposit an egg in the nest.

How a Single Plegan Passed for Seventy. from the Buffalo Express.

How a Single Piegus Passed for Seventy, and a Crow Fooled Some Coxeyites.

Trom the Buffaio Express.

"A member of the Canadian Mounted Police, Lieut, McDonough, told the," said Capt. Partello, at the Othecre's Club, "the following incident of a band of Cree, and a solitary Piegan Indian, which is novel and interesting, it occurred about 100 miles from Fort Walsh. A band of Cree indians woke up one snowy morning to find that about one dogen of their choicest pointes had been run off during the night. Pursuit was soon organized, and wit, an a few hours a fresh trail was found in the snew. After following the trait some thirty miles it entered a river bottom and headed for a wooded island in the mildide of the river.

"Sincke was seen rising from the press, and an opening, which seemed to be the mouth of a cave, appeared in plain view. Presently a single indian, a Piegan, showed up in front of the opening. He was in war paint, and there was a dog at his heels. Pretty soon the dog scented the Crees, and began growling and barking. The Piegan looked up, glanced a monean about him, and then instantly entered the cave. In about ten seconds another Piegan camparound the rocks and also went in; then another and another, there being but a few seconds between them. The Crees lay sliently in the basics watching and counting, until upward of lifty Piegans had come around the rocks and also went in; then another and another, there being but a few seconds between them. The Crees lay sliently in the basics watching and counting, until upward of lifty Piegans had come around the rocks and agone into the cave, and still they kept coming. V. hat seemed remarkable was the fact that all these ladians were, to all appearances, exactly the same size, were dressed and painted alike, each explicit and in the left foot, limping slightly.

"They were a grudy crowd, and the Crees counted seventy of them. The superstitions Crees naturally concluded that the evil spirit had something to do with it, for there was no doubt that there were se

sixty-nine other warriors was a sharp trick on the part of the Plegan warrior to deceive his elemites and gain time for his escape, which he accomplished in good shape.

While it is true that most red men are rideulously superstitious, and others again so stolid and indifferent that you might enter their presence with a brass band, throw hand springs before them, smile, weep, have convulsions, or do some other outrageous thing, and yet they will sit and look at you with a cold, reserved giance and disinterested eye; still, there are more who have the hump of humor pretty well developed, and are intense wars in their own way. The trader at For Berthold, on the upper Missouri, caught a Tartar one day.

A tree Indian had given him considerable annoyance by hanging around the store in a Missouri, caught a Tartar one day.

"A fee indian had given him considerable annoyance by hanging around the store in a half-druken condition, and was told that in case he was seen again with a bottle it would be taken away from him and thrown into the fire. A few days afterward the indian appeared with a pint flask in his blanket as usual. The trader was as good as his word, and demanded the bottle, which was given up without a word of protest, and then the redskin started for the door. The trader threw the flask into the store, when bang! went the store and out came the windows, the trader following. Had he stopped to investigate before throwing, he would have found the flask contained gunpowder, not whiskey.

"Some of Coxey's foot tourists in eastern Montana were badly sold last spring by a mischlevous Craw Indian, who moved a sign on the road to Hillings reading 'Six miles to Billings,' and stock it up in a strange place. The weary Commonwealers travelled six days and nights before they reached that town."

SHE SAVED FOR MANY. Seventy-four Persons Will Share a Miserly Woman's Fortune.

Woman's Fortane.

From the Chicago Daily Tribune.

JEFFERSONVILLE, Ind., Jan. 4.—The decision of Judge Gibson of the Clark Circuit Coart to appoint a Commissioner to dispose of the property of the late eccentric Mrs. Surah Lawman and a case remarkable from many standpoints. The recent death of Mrs. Lewman and her daughter, a maden lady, within a short time of each other, their supposed poverty, and the unexpected finding of a fortune conceased in their house caused a sensation at the time. The administrator on investigating the premises found ministrator on investigating the premises found ministrator on investigating the premises found ministrator on investigating the premises found money hidden in the cellar, in fruit jars, cans, the atite, in cracks, under the carpets, and, in fact, there was hardly a secret spot around the house but what contained either gold and silver or bits of large denominations, notes and appear of great value, bank isooks representing thousands of dollars of deposits. &c.

Soon the place had to be guarded to prevent the invaders from hiteraily tearing it to pieces in their mad search for hidden treasure. &c.

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Soon the place had to be guarded to prevent and to be relatives, prepared lunches, and the act Iron the Chicago Daily Tribune.

Not a Great Revenue Producer. From the Indianapolis cournal.

"I see," said Mrs. Hashcroft, " that they have passed an ordinance imposing a fine on any one who yells 'Fire' in a church.' Oh. well, and the Cheerful Idiot, "that sort of preaching has pretty much gone out of date, any way."

CUCROOS HAVE QUEER HABITS. AND NOW ST. LUKE'S

TRAINED NURSES DERIVE BENEFIT FROM THAT AFRICAN NUT.

What Chaplain Freeman Says-Vino-Kolafra Used by Those Who Nurse the Sick and Those Who Minister to the Soul.

A fresh illustration of the value of the right kind of stimulant in the emergency work of the world is afforded by the experience of the trained nurses of St. Luke's Hospital, who have been using an extract of the wonderful African nut which has attracted so much attention from scientists, and which promises to supplant not only such dangerous stimulants as alcohol, Cocq Wine, &c., but if indications do not fall even those commonly accepted household stimulants, ten, coffee, and cocon.

The work of the trained nurse, especially in a great hospital, is extremely arduous, These ministers of mercy are called upon to exercise all the faculties of their being at once. They must retain a scientific method and routines they must preserve calm of body and mind, so that the patient shall be properly encouraged and comforted. Particularly must they avoid anything like nervousness, anxiety, and impatience, and yet on some occasions they must be awake all night. All the conditions, in fact are against them. Until the introduction of Vino-Kolafra through the use of the nut by the French and German armies and by athletes and physicians no stimulant existed, whatever were its immediate advantages, which is not attended by an inevitable reaction and in some cases by a permanent and noxlous "after-habit." The absence of any reaction or after-habit in the case of Vino-Kolafra has been demonstrated in various clinics and in a very wide use on the part of the general public, often under the advice of a physician taking the initiative in pretoribing it.

Mr. W. V. Byard, the pharmacist at St. Luke's Hospital, gave an interesting account of the training which nurses have to undergo at the raining school. "This training," said Mr. Byard, "is so severe

that a large percentage of the women break down under the mental and physical strain before they even graduate. Only the strongest minds and bodies can stand the wear and tear incident to this noble and interesting calling. In view of this fact, any reliable stimulant free from the objections of tes and coffee on the one hand and possessing the sustaining power of stimulants which no self-respecting nurse could possibly take, will inevitably find special application in this branch of lifework. In the short time that Vino-Konafra has been used by the trained nurses of St. Luke's Hospital I am able to say that it is proving a most valuable aid to strength. The nurses have personally reported to me their satisfaction with the new tonicatimulant, and any one who knows how extremely careful in matters of diet they necessarily are will understand just what their recommendation implies. They work in the hospital from 6 A. M. to 8 P. M., frequently rushing out to duty outside. There are no regular hours, much broken rest, and many vigils. Vino-Kolafra has accomplished everything that has been claimed for it, and in so doing has undergone a remarkably severe test. If useful to trained nurses to the extent of being almost indispensable, women generally must necessarily find it a boon whenever similar conditions confront them in the duties of life."

Mr. Byard incidentally remarked that he had made a century run on the bloycle together with a trained athlete. One hundred miles were made in seven consecutive hours, although an accident involved a lame shoulder and half the distance was made against a strong head

"We came in fresh," said Mr. Byard trie umphantly, "on one wineglassful of Vino-Kolafra before starting. In these days of patent medicines which rely on alcohol and cocaine for temporary effect Vino-Kolafra deserves the hearty welcome and recommendation it is receiving from all classes. The fact that it is an antidote for alcoholism and drug habits gene erally will commend it specially to those who feel a mutual responsibility with their fellow men and women."

Rev. Charles E. Freeman, chaplain of St. Luke's Hospital, who had found Vino-Kolafra very beneficial, not only in his own case but in that of his family, was also interviewed.

"I have found Vino-Kolafra a most restful sedative after a hard day's work, and every Sunday I have relied upon it to go calmir through the duties of that particular day. Any conscientious ciergyman knows the intellectual and emotional strain involved in the preparation and delivery of sermons and even extemporaneous addresses from the pulpit. Many clergymen break down purely because they give out too much, so to speak. I have made repeated trials of Vino-Kolafra, and always with the same beneficial effect. I have experienced no reaction, and I have found, and this I will candidly say I did not expect, that instead of interfering with natural rest it was promoted by it-Some time ago I had a severe attack of the grip. and would have been utterly unable to do my routine work. Vino-Kolafra carried me over successfully, and, as I have said before, I experienced no reaction whatever, and the even tone secured by its use was maintained withous any interruption or let-down of the nervous system."

This extension of the use of the new tonic stimulant appears to be merely fresh evidence vindicating a well-established theory of vasa practical importance.

The inference is being made by a large class of consumers that if the "sterculia" nut from Africa, from which Vino-Kolafra is made, enables troops to march many miles and many days without other food, if in the international games and in the contest between Yale and Cambridge athletes have taken Vino-Kolafra during months of training without ill effect, reaction or the entailment of any habit, only to be completely successful in the end; if the letter carriers of New York, if physicians in their practice both abread and at home find that Vino-Kolafra gives atrength to the strong, is must necessarily give strength to those whom circumstances compel to endure unusual labor or strain, or to those not naturally strong or are suffering from the effects of illness or a general running down of the nervous system.

Johnson & Johnson of No. 92 William street have shown considerable enterprise in bringing the merits of the new tonic stimulant to the attention of those less qualified to decide upon its merits. A very large sale has demonstrated that the favorable opinions cutertained by many distinguished authorities and olinies have been based upon firm ground of test-